

COUNTY OF NEVADA
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

SEP 28 1999

1403

950 Maidu Avenue • Nevada City, California 95959-8617
Telephone: (530) 265-1480 • FAX: (530) 265-1234

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Elizabeth Martin

Supervisor, 4th District

Residence Phone: (530) 432-9093

E-mail izzzy@oro.net

September 23, 1999

Rick Breitenbach
CALFED Bay Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Breitenbach:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit comments regarding the Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR.

The County of Nevada contains within its borders the watersheds for the South Fork of the Yuba, as well as much of the watershed of the middle fork. We also sit at the headwaters of much of the Bear River. As such, CALFED's final decisions regarding California's water future affects us very directly.

Many of your recommendations and actions are consistent with our overall goals and policies for water and land use within our county. We are particularly pleased that CALFED has awarded funding to groups within our region that are working on watershed restoration and consensus building around flood protection in both the Bear and Yuba River watersheds. Thank you for helping us to restore what is a truly magnificent, although terribly ravaged, river system and watershed.

The Board of Supervisors has adopted a number of resolutions and policies that speak to the many issues raised in your programmatic document. I am forwarding these to you to ensure that these issues are considered in your next series of decisions. These include:

1. Protecting the South Yuba River: Nevada County is the sponsor of legislation recently passed by the California Legislature that would designate the South Fork of the Yuba River as part of the state's wild and scenic river system. This legislation, if signed by Governor Davis, will prohibit further consideration of several dams now under study by the Yuba County Water Agency (YCWA). This designation is consistent with CALFED's environmental document. Attached is our resolution authorizing sponsorship of this designation. Attached are resolutions 9943 and 9979 supporting and authorizing sponsorship.
2. Protecting the Middle Fork: In recent technical comments submitted to YCWA as part of their flood control studies our Board of Supervisors voted to oppose further consideration of a dam at

Freeman's Crossing on the Middle Fork of the Yuba, near the town of Camptonville. We also made a number of other comments in that document. Our comments are all consistent with the CALFED programmatic EIR. Both the resolution, 99362, and the technical comments are attached for your information.

3. Habitat protection and restoration of steelhead and salmon runs: The Yuba is home to one of the last remaining runs of wild steelhead and fall run salmon. In CALFED's efforts to protect this diminishing species – and to restore it to historic levels – there is an active dialogue around the future of Englebright Reservoir and dam. The Nevada County Board of Supervisors have considered the many facets of this complex issue and has addressed some of them in Board resolution 99193, attached. This resolution calls for quick completion of the studies association with this issue, and protection of the businesses, private homes and environmental qualities that depend upon Englebright.
4. Watershed restoration: We are partners in a several collaborative efforts that are now being funded or considered by CALFED, including the Yuba Watershed Council and the Yuba Tools for Flood Protection project. We thank you for funding these important efforts and look forward to continued work with these partners. Our most recent resolution, 99428, authorizing our participation in the Watershed Council is attached.

Thanks again for this opportunity to participate in decisions around California's complex water policy debate. We applaud your efforts to find long term, sustainable solutions to California's water quality and quantity problems.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about these issues.

Sincerely,



ELIZABETH J. MARTIN
Supervisor, 4th District

Attachments: Resolutions 9943, 9979, 99362, 99193, 99428
Letter to YCWA July 27, 1999

cc: Shawn Garvey, SYRCL
Steve Evans, FOR
David Munro, Save Englebright Lake



1403

RESOLUTION No. 99-43

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING DESIGNATION OF THE SOUTH YUBA RIVER BETWEEN SPAULDING & ENGLEBRIGHT RESERVOIRS AS A WILD & SCENIC RIVER

WHEREAS, the South Yuba River possesses extraordinary and outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, historic and cultural resources, among them:

- A profound, unparalleled and irreplaceable natural beauty, whose wildlife, swimming holes, canyons and sculptured boulders possess a unique spiritual, emotional and cultural significance for nearby communities and visitors alike
- Documented historical significance as well as numerous sites listed and eligible for listing in the National Register of Historical Places, including the Bridgeport Covered Bridge
- The South Yuba River State Park
- The Independence Trail, the longest wheelchair-accessible wilderness trail in the country; and

***WHEREAS**, the South Yuba River is one of Nevada County's most outstanding and valuable natural assets, and has been declared in the County's General Plan Update a unique recreational resource that attracts an estimated 700,000 visitor-days and \$20 million in economic activity for Nevada County annually; and

WHEREAS, the South Yuba River

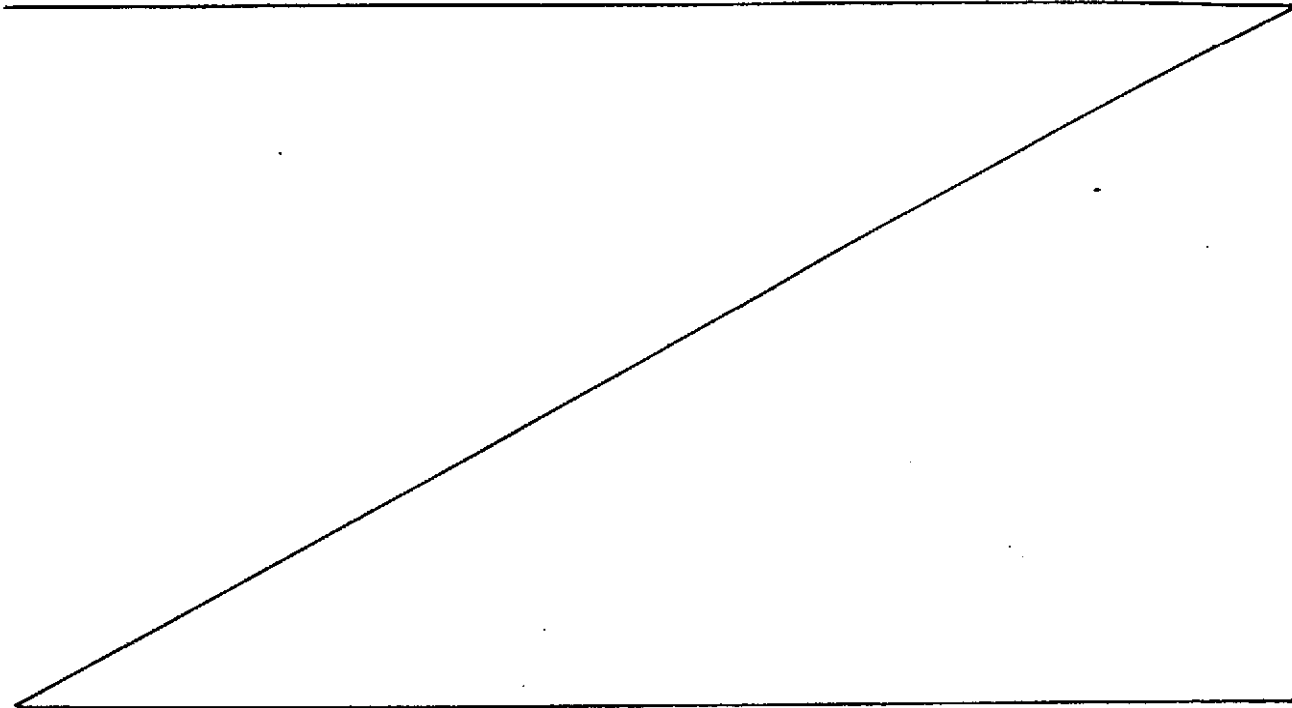
- has been determined by the Tahoe National Forest, in its draft river study report, suitable for inclusion in the National Wild & Scenic Rivers System; and
- has been determined an environmentally, economically and technologically low-priority site for additional, large-scale flood control and water storage projects, and that more effective flood control projects exist elsewhere in the Yuba Watershed.

WHEREAS, the Yuba River's recovery from the severe environmental degradation of the Gold Rush and its attendant hydraulic mining practices is a living testament to the power, genius and fortitude of nature and its creatures; and

WHEREAS, the people of Nevada County, in the spirit of local decision making and control, have expressed, through their years of dedicated labor, their support for protection for the South Yuba River from dams, diversions and reservoirs that might harm its natural integrity and threaten private property rights.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors does hereby express its support for Wild & Scenic River designation for the South Yuba River between Spaulding and Englebright Reservoirs, along with all protections extended by such designation under local, state and federal laws and regulations.

**(Based upon a report from the State Department of Parks & Recreation.)*



PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada at a regular meeting of said Board, held on the 19th day of January, 19 99, by the following vote of said Board:

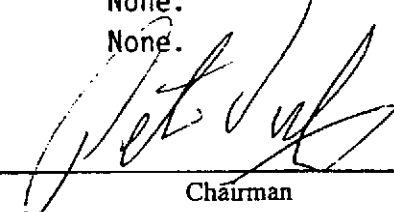
ATTEST:

CATHY R. THOMPSON

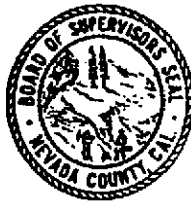
Clerk of the Board

By: Cathy R. Thompson

Ayes: Supervisors Peter Van Zant, Bruce Conklin,
Elizabeth Martin, Sam Dardick.
Noes: Karen Knecht;
Absent: None.
Abstain: None.


Chairman

DATE	COPIES SENT TO
1-20-99	SYRCL <u>BP</u>
	USFS c/o Phil Hornig
	Congressman Herger
	NID
	County of Yuba



RESOLUTION No. 99-79

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

A RESOLUTION SPONSORING PROPOSED LEGISLATION DESIGNATING THE SOUTH YUBA RIVER BETWEEN SPAULDING AND ENGLEBRIGHT RESERVOIRS AS A COMPONENT OF THE CALIFORNIA WILD & SCENIC RIVER SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the South Yuba River possesses extraordinary and outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, historic and cultural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors, on January 19, 1999, passed Resolution 99-43 supporting Wild & Scenic River designation for the South Yuba River between Spaulding and Englebright Reservoirs; and

WHEREAS, proposed legislation is now being prepared to designate this section of the South Yuba River as a component of the California Wild & Scenic River System.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors, hereby sponsors legislation to amend the Public Resources Code, relating to wild and scenic rivers as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 5093.54 is amended to read:

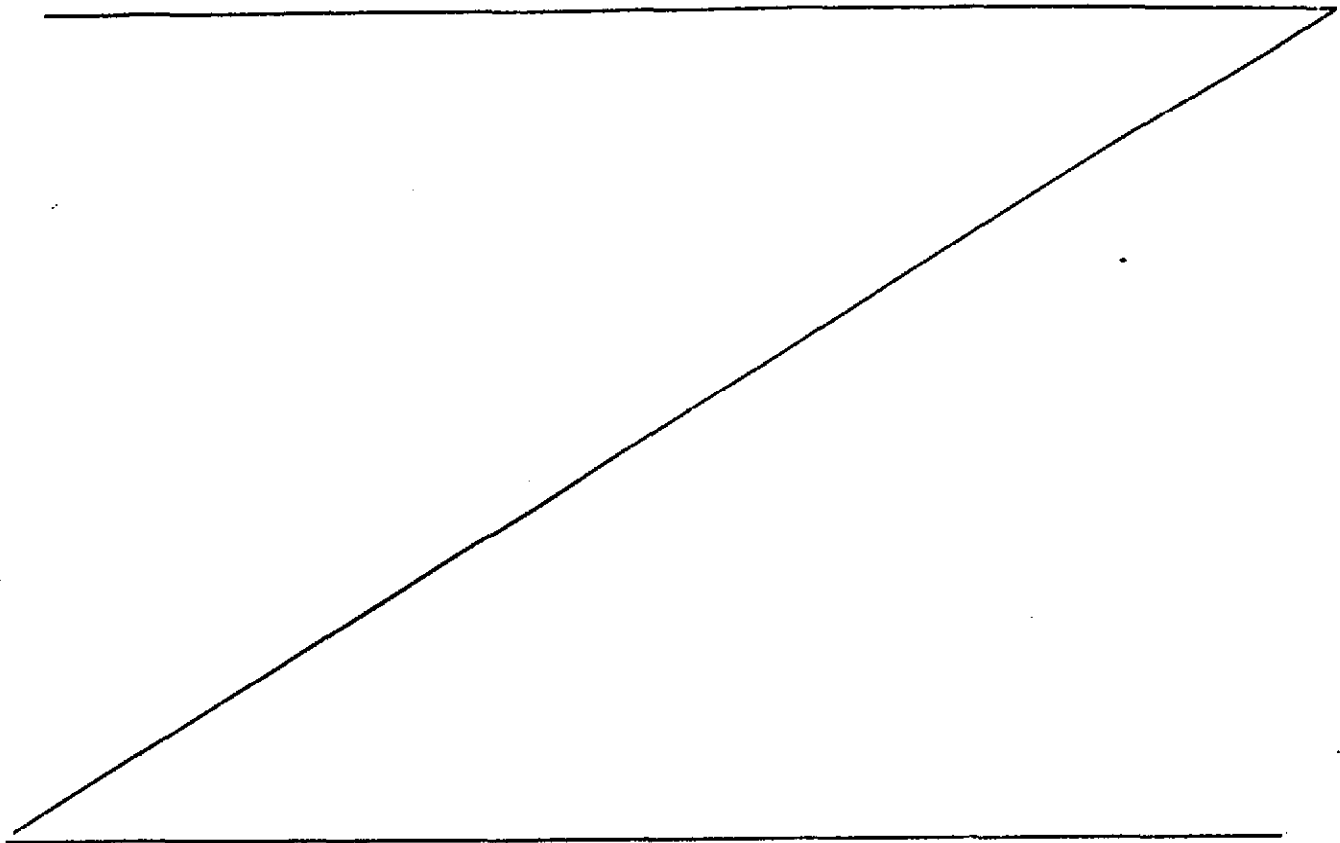
“(g) The South Yuba River: From Lang Crossing to the confluence of Englebright Reservoir below Bridgeport.”

Former subd (g) would be redesignated to be subd (h).

SECTION 2. Section 5093.545 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

“(1) The South Yuba River:

- (1) The South Yuba River from Lang Crossing to the confluence with Fall Creek: Scenic
- (2) The South Yuba River from the confluence with Fall Creek to the confluence with Jefferson Creek below the town of Washington: Recreational
- (3) The South Yuba River from the confluence with Jefferson Creek to Edwards Crossing: Scenic
- (4) The South Yuba River from Edwards Crossing to the upper limit of Englebright Reservoir below Bridgeport: Scenic”



PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada at a regular meeting of said Board, held on the 16th day of February, 19 99, by the following vote of said Board:

Ayes: Supervisors Peter Van Zant, Bruce Conklin,
Elizabeth Martin, Sam Dardick.

Nees: Karen Knecht.

Absent: None.

Abstain: None.

ATTEST:

CATHY R. THOMPSON

Clerk of the Board

By: Cathy R. Thompson

[Signature]
Chairman

DATE	COPIES SENT TO
2-17-99	Senator Sher
	Senator Leslie
	Assemblyman Aarnestad
	SYRCL
	NID
	CA Parks & Rec.
	BLM
	USFS
	County of Yuba



RESOLUTION No. 99362

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

RESOLUTION OPPOSING CONSTRUCTION OF NEW DAMS AND RESERVOIRS IN NEVADA COUNTY ON EITHER THE SOUTH YUBA OR MIDDLE YUBA RIVER AT FREEMAN'S AND EDWARDS CROSSING, OR THE LOWER NARROWS, AND REQUESTING THE YUBA COUNTY WATER AGENCY CEASE FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THESE ALTERNATIVES IN ITS SUPPLEMENTAL FLOOD CONTROL PROGRAM STUDY PHASE II REPORT

WHEREAS, the Yuba County Water Agency is proposing five new dams or diversions with reservoirs that could impact Nevada County as possible flood control options in its Supplemental Flood Control Program Study Phase II Report, and;

WHEREAS, Nevada County supports the Yuba County Water Agency's effort to provide flood control to Yuba County and surrounding downstream area residents, and;

WHEREAS, Nevada County does not believe dams and reservoirs in Nevada County will provide the most viable solution to the serious problem of downstream flood control, and;

WHEREAS, these proposed alternatives would include a dam and reservoir at Freeman's Crossing where Highway 49 crosses the Middle Yuba River near Oregon Creek, a dam and reservoir at Edwards Crossing on the South Yuba River, and a dam and multi-purpose reservoir at the Lower Narrows, and;

WHEREAS, these flood control options would seriously impact Nevada County's economy and natural resources, destroy the unique character and free flowing nature of the South and Middle Yuba Rivers in Nevada County, and displace people from their homes and property, and;

WHEREAS, opposition to the placement of dams on the South Yuba River canyon is consistent with the 1995 Nevada County General Plan, Volume 1, Chapter 5, Objective 5.8, Policy 5.21.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors opposes construction of any new dam and reservoir on either the Middle or South Yuba River at either Freeman's and Edwards Crossing and the Lower Narrows.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Yuba County Water agency is requested to cease further consideration of Alternatives D, E, and F in their Supplemental Flood Control Program, Study Phase II report, proposing dams and reservoirs at these locations.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada at a regular meeting of said Board, held on the 27th day of July, 19 99, by the following vote of said Board:

Ayes: Supervisors Van Zant, Martin, Dardick.

Noes: Knecht.

Absent: Conklin.

Abstain: None

ATTEST:

CATHY R. THOMPSON

Clerk of the Board

By: Cathy R. Thompson

[Signature]
Chairman

DATE	COPIES SENT TO
7-27-99	Yuba County Water Agency
	Yuba County Board of Supervisors

COUNTY OF NEVADA

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

950 Maidu Avenue • Nevada City, California 95959-8617
Telephone: (530) 265-1480 • FAX: (530) 265-1234

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Peter Van Zant, 1st District
Karen Knecht, 2nd District
Bruce Conklin, 3rd District
Elizabeth Martin, 4th District
Sam Dardick, 5th District

Cathy R. Thompson
Clerk of the Board

July 27, 1999

Tib Belza, Chairman
Yuba County Water Agency
Board of Directors

Subject: Yuba County Water Agency Supplemental Flood Control Program - Phase II Report

Dear Mr. Belza:

On behalf of the Nevada County Board of Supervisors, I would like to thank you for inviting comment on the Yuba County Water Agency Supplemental Flood Control Program Phase II Report. Nevada County shares your concerns and is committed to helping you find a viable solution to the serious issue of flood control in Yuba County and other downstream communities.

While we are not at this time submitting technical engineering comments on the report, we do have several overall observations about the study, as well as specific recommendations regarding the Preliminary Alternatives recommended for further review in the Phase II report. Due to the short time limit for submitting comments, we reserve the right to submit additional comments and concerns at a later date.

At our meeting on July 27, 1999, our Board also passed a resolution opposing the construction of dams and multi-purpose reservoirs at Freeman's and Edwards Crossing, and the Lower Narrows. Since each of these proposed facilities would impact private and public property in Nevada County, and in light of previous YCWA statements and protections in the law regarding local approval of dam construction, we respectfully request you remove these alternatives from further consideration in your study.

Overall Comments

The format of the report and the analysis of the alternatives are well done. We appreciate the way that the report has been presented, including a full listing of the alternatives under consideration, and the results of your analysis based on specific criteria. This has helped us to understand more completely your objectives and concerns in evaluating your flood control options.

We are concerned however, that your analysis is based upon certain assumptions that we believe to be unrealistic or inappropriate for evaluating potential flood control options. There are two specific assumptions that YCWA has used in the report we wish to comment on:

- a. The level of flood protection sought
- b. The economic assumptions used

a. Flood Protection: Much of the report is based upon the need for 500-year flood protection. This is a very high standard - much higher than most areas in California either presently enjoy or are attempting to achieve. Choosing a flood protection level of this high standard makes the possible solutions more expensive, as well as considerably more extensive.

As you are well aware, the Army Corps of Engineers and the State Reclamation Board released a report in April 1998 outlining a series of flood protection alternatives that produce a 300 year level of flood protection for the City of Marysville. A 200-year flood protection level is proposed for rural Yuba County (where I understand a large percentage of the population now live). The money for these improvements is pending in the WRDA bill still moving through Congress. Nevada County has previously endorsed passage of these funds and is willing to assist in this effort in the future.

It is not clear that the YCWA 500-year flood protection goal is justified. We believe the additional expense, timeframe and impacts of the facilities needed to achieve this goal are unrealistic and impractical at this time.

b. Economic Assumptions: YCWA forecasts expense and income over a 30-year period for each alternative. Obviously these numbers are based on a number of assumptions, and are not all-inclusive. They do appear however, to underestimate the cost of building the proposed dams.

It is clear that economic goals underpin much of the improvements examined by YCWA. The study indicates YCWA is interested in maintaining or increasing water storage for sales, and seems to require that any increase in flood reservation at New Bullards Bar be matched by new storage elsewhere.

We strongly object to water storage projects solely for YCWA economic development and investment projects that injure the economic health or private and public property in Nevada County. It is clearly within our jurisdiction to protect the current land uses in the Yuba River canyon that lie within our border, and we will continue to do so with vigor.

Comments on Preliminary Alternatives for Further Review

OUT OF COUNTY PROJECTS: The County of Nevada will not comment officially on projects that do not directly impact our County land uses or economy. However, we wish to generally note that new reservoir and detention water projects on the Yuba River are also not presently supported by state and federal agencies with water project management authority. The short- and long-term impacts of new expansion of on-river canyon dams on fisheries, habitat and the economy appear to have made them a poor choice for further consideration. These include alternatives not directly impacting Nevada County as follows:

- A Reservoir Enlargements 7. c. & d.,

- B: Reservoir Enlargements 3. c, 7. c.
- C: Parks Bar Detention Basin, 8.
- D: Reservoir Enlargements 7. b. & c.,
- E: Reservoir Enlargements: 7. b. & c.
- G: Parks Bar and French Dry Creek Reservoir, 10.

PROJECTS THAT DIRECTLY IMPACT NEVADA COUNTY LAND USES

Alternative A: We fully support 4.c. Increased flood storage space with outlet enlargement at New Bullards Bar Reservoir. We are concerned about the land use and economic impacts of 11. a.: Waldo Reservoir.

Alternative B: We fully support 4.c. Increased flood storage space with outlet enlargement at New Bullards Bar Reservoir. We are concerned about the land use and economic impacts of 11. a.: Waldo Reservoir.

Alternative D: We are opposed to the construction of Freeman's Crossing Reservoir.

The reservoir would have the following negative impacts on the residents of the San Juan Ridge area of Nevada County:

- Loss of homes and land of at least 135 people in Nevada County to submersion and condemnation around the proposed dam area
- Loss of approximately 10% of students attending Twin Ridges School District due to condemnation of homes, placing further strain on an already declining enrollment
- Depreciation of land values in North San Juan
- Loss of a gravel business on Drunken Miners Road
- Loss to local North San Juan businesses from elimination of Oregon Creek campground recreation facilities
- Major socioeconomic disruption caused by dam construction and variable water levels of a flood control reservoir

Alternative E: We are opposed to the construction of a multi-purpose reservoir at Edwards Crossing. This dam would flood an important recreational use area of the river, flood private property under the jurisdiction of the County of Nevada, including the property of dozens of parcels whose owners have asked for protection under the wild and scenic river system. This alternative would also have a long-term impact on the economy and environment of Nevada County. Construction of a dam at this location is inconsistent with the 1995 Nevada County General Plan, Policy 5.21.

Alternative F: We are opposed to the construction of the multi-purpose reservoir at the Lower Narrows. This dam would flood an important recreational use area of the river including the large and successful South Yuba River State Park, and flood private property under the jurisdiction of the County of Nevada, including the property of dozens of parcels whose owners have asked for protection under the wild and scenic river system. This alternative would also inundate the existing reservoir and dam at Englebright; and have a long-term impact on the economy and environment of Nevada County. Construction of a dam at this location is also inconsistent with the 1995 Nevada County General Plan, Policy 5.21.

Alternative H: We fully support this alternative of creating a flood bypass and increasing downstream channel capacity.

Alternative I: We fully support channel capacity enlargements and levee setbacks to increase downstream capacity.


In Summary

We have noted with interest Yuba County's reassurances that they will not seek to build dams or reservoirs in Nevada County without our support. Our General Plan, adopted by a 5 - 0 vote in 1995, requires that we discourage placement of dams on the Yuba River. At this time, we formally request that you cease consideration of the Edwards Crossing Reservoir, the Lower Narrows Reservoir, and the multi-purpose reservoir at Freeman's Crossing and remove them from your study as possible flood control alternatives.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about our comments. We also request that we be placed on your notification list for future public meetings and upcoming YCWA activities related to the evaluation of alternatives in your study.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



PETER VAN ZANT
Chairman of the Board



RESOLUTION No. 99193

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PROTECTION FOR ENGLEBRIGHT LAKE IN THE CALFED STUDIES REGARDING RESTORATION OF SALMON & STEELHEAD HABITAT IN THE UPPER YUBA RIVER

WHEREAS, reintroduction of steelhead and salmon in the upper Yuba River could bring potential economic and ecological benefits and/or costs to all the residents of Nevada County and the State of California; and

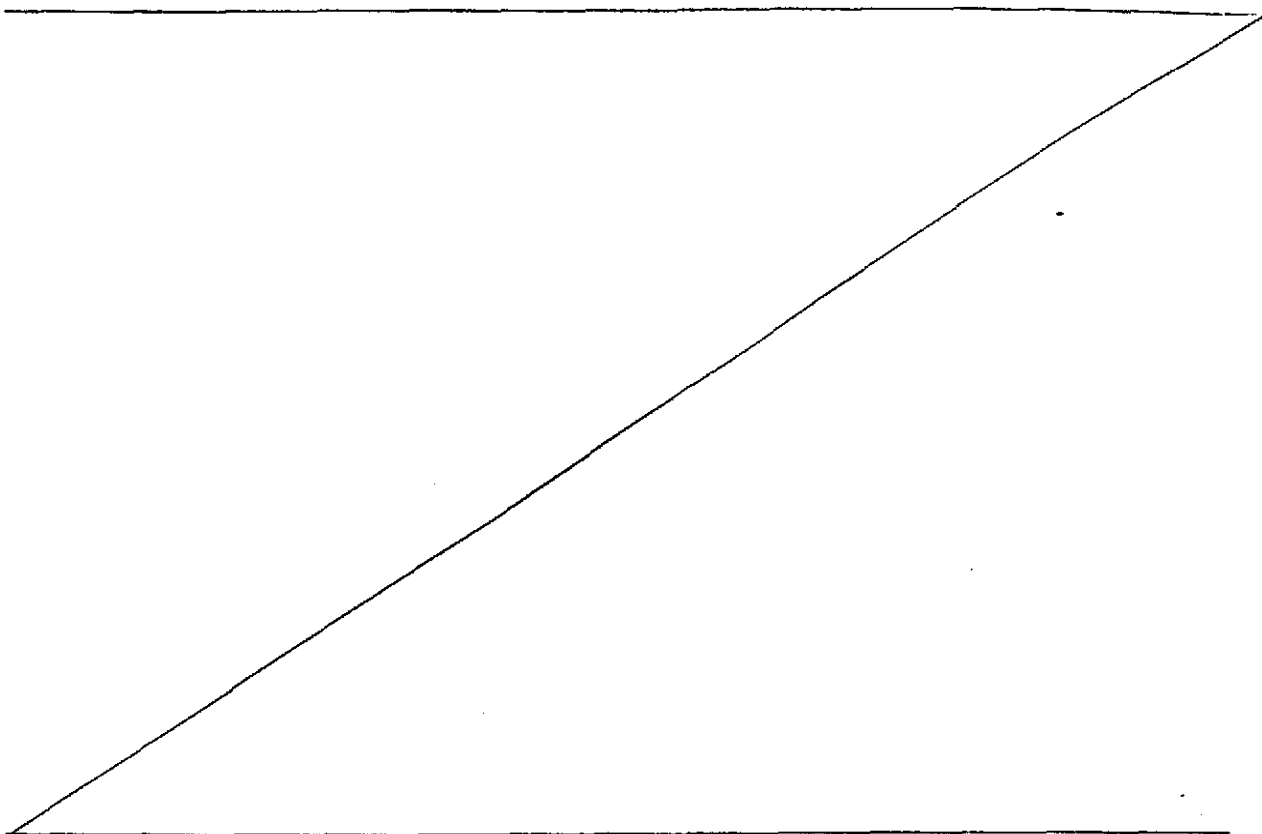
WHEREAS, Englebright Lake is an important component in the Yuba River Watershed providing important recreational opportunities and debris control, and contributing to the overall economic health of Nevada County; and

WHEREAS, studies proposed by CALFED will provide valuable information to help meet CALFED's goal of re-introduction of steelhead and salmon; and

WHEREAS, the discussion around these issues have created tension and fear and affected local stakeholders including private property owners, visitors, businesses and their employees who fear more negative impacts on their property and businesses if the dam is decommissioned.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Nevada County Board of Supervisors seeks protection for our county in the current water policy debate. We call upon CALFED to:

1. Further reduce future harm to our community by quickly completing the proposed studies on whether habitat for salmon and steelhead still exists in the upper reach of the Yuba, ensuring that these studies are comprehensive, credible and objective;
2. If habitat is found to be viable, find a way to restore the salmon and steelhead run and save Englebright Lake;
3. Fully and expediently compensate all property owners and businesses injured by any actions of CALFED.



PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada at a regular meeting of said Board, held on the 27th day of April, 19 99, by the following vote of said Board:

ATTEST:

CATHY R. THOMPSON

Clerk of the Board

By: Cathy R. Thompson

Ayes: Supervisors Peter Van Zant, Karen Knecht,
Bruce Conklin, Elizabeth Martin, Sam Dardi
Noes: None.
Absent: None.
Abstain: None.

Chairman

DATE	COPIES SENT TO
4-29-99	CALFED
	County of Yuba
	LWW Assn.
	Penn Valley Chamber
	Yuba County Water Agency
	NID
	SYRCL

David Munro-Skipper's Cove



RESOLUTION No. 99428

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

(A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT)

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors, of the County of Nevada, State of California, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors be and is hereby authorized to execute, on behalf of the County of Nevada, that certain _____

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

dated the 7TH day of SEPTEMBER, 1999, and between said County and YUBA WATERSHED COUNCIL

pertaining to A VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT TO COOPERATE AND COORDINATE YUBA WATERSHED LAND MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING ACTIVITIES.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada at a regular meeting of said Board, held on the 7th day of September, 19 99, by the following vote of said Board:

Ayes: Supervisors Van Zant, Conklin, Dardick.

Noes: Knecht.

Absent: Martin.

Abstain: None.

ATTEST:

CATHY R. THOMPSON
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: Cathy R. Thompson

[Signature]
Chairman

DATE	COPIES SENT TO
9-8-99	Yuba Watershed Council c/o R. Zinke
	A-C <u>AS</u>
	Planning <u>AS</u>

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

for the

YUBA WATERSHED COUNCIL

I. PURPOSE AND NEED

The signatories of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) recognize the value of coordinating land management and planning activities among public agencies at all levels as well as between these agencies and other stakeholders, and to evaluate and implement projects of mutual interest. This MOU is intended to foster overall watershed health through cooperation, information and education including but not limited to the planning and implementation of specific actions involving water quality and quantity, air quality, recreation, fisheries, wildlife, riparian/terrestrial habitat, public safety, flood control and fuels management.

II. VISION STATEMENT

We envision our watershed as a biologically diverse, productive and sustainable watershed containing:

- Rivers, streams and lakes that flow clear and clean, are free from pollution, and support healthy aquatic and riparian ecosystems;
- A landscape that reflects a diversity of terrestrial ecosystems and provides habitat to support healthy fish, wildlife and plant communities;
- A viable socioeconomic environment.

III. MISSION STATEMENT

The Yuba Watershed Council is a community forum of stakeholders which is taking the initiative to:

- Better appreciate the complex watershed relationships in the Yuba River watershed and its environs;
- Protect, restore and enhance watershed resources where needed;
- Maintain a sustainable watershed resource base for future generations.

In addressing social, economic and environmental concerns in the watershed, Council members will cooperate and coordinate with one another, while respecting the mission, roles and rights of each entity.

Functions:

- Assess potential issues of importance in the watershed and bring to the group for consideration;
- Help coordinate efforts or activities of individual members and interests involved in the watershed and/or partner with individual organizations on specific watershed-related projects;
- Represent and provide balance of diverse interests in reviewing and prioritizing proposed watershed projects or issues of concern;
- Identify and coordinate joint applications for public and private funding for research, planning and implementation, and long-term monitoring programs supported by the Council;
- Provide oversight and resources, as necessary and appropriate, for the administration of grants received and projects undertaken in the name of the Council;
- Serve as an educational resource and central informational clearinghouse and networking hub for individuals and groups with projects and interests in the watershed or those with general concerns about watershed issues;
- Help break down barriers and enhance relationships between agencies, and between agencies, stakeholders, and the rest of the community.

IV. DESCRIPTION OF COUNCIL AREA OF INTEREST

The Yuba Watershed Council's area of interest consists of the Yuba and Bear River watersheds, from their headwaters to their confluence with the Feather River.

V. DESIRED PARTICIPANTS

Stakeholder participation is strongly encouraged to enable and ensure that the Council's activities fully reflect the vision and mission of the Yuba Watershed Council. The Council will include participants from the following categories:

Federal and State Agencies

Local Government Agencies

Businesses and Commercial Interests

Community Interest Groups/Individuals

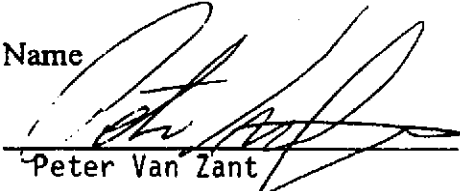
(See Appendix A for a listing of desired participants)

VI. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. The Council uses a collaborative and consensus-based process. When consensus is not possible, a two-thirds majority vote will be used to make decisions, as described in the bylaws. A dissenting minority opinion will be recorded in the minutes.
2. This Memorandum of Understanding is a dynamic document subject to change by consensus.
3. The intention of this Memorandum of Understanding is to establish a voluntary and cooperative commitment by the signatories to work together in a watershed planning process and in the implementation of projects to the extent of their authority. The Yuba Watershed Council, by design, includes members who represent a broad diversity of interests and viewpoints. Council members may have strong opinions on particular issues that differ from those of other members. Council members respect the viewpoints of others, and expect that their viewpoints will be respectfully heard and considered. Council members listen first to gain understanding of what is being said, before judging or expressing disagreement. Council members understand that they are responsible for maintaining an atmosphere where ideas and positions can be freely discussed. Council members refrain from making personal attacks on others, avoid hidden agendas, and conduct themselves in a way that fosters consensus building.
4. This Memorandum of Understanding is not a contract and is not legally binding; it is instead an agreement among the signatories to work together toward common goals to the extent possible. No signatory may be forced to take any action with which it does not concur.
5. Any signatory party, in writing, may request termination of their participation at any time.
6. This Memorandum of Understanding is effective as of September 15, 1999.
7. It is the intent of the signatory parties to maintain this MOU indefinitely.

VII. SIGNATORIES

We the undersigned, concur with the vision, mission and governance structure of the Yuba Watershed Council, and will act to implement this Memorandum of Understanding to the best of our ability.

Name	Title	Representing
 Peter Van Zant	Chairman, Board of Supervisors	Nevada County

Invited to Join

USGS
High Sierra Resource Conservation and Development
CDFG
USFWS
ACOE
DWR
Department of Conservation
Regional Water Quality Control Board
CCC
CYA
Northern Air Quality Management District
Town of Washington
Nevada County Fish and Wildlife Commission
Yuba County Water Agency
Sierra County
Placer County
Yuba County
Placer County Resource Conservation District
All fire districts as outlined on Desired Participants
All Chambers as outlined on Desired Participants
Hansen Bros
Sierra Pacific
Menasha Corp.
Economic Resource Council
Robinson Timber
Skippers Cove Marina
CABPRO
California Landowners Alliance
Nevada City Anglers
Gold County Flyfishers
CA Sport Fishing Alliance
CAL Trout
Nevada County Fire Safe Council
CA Indian Basketweavers Association
Nevada County Land Trust
Nevada County Conservation Alliance
Cement Hill Neighborhood Association
Cattleman's Association
Farm Bureau
CA Native Plant Society